

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4097

ANSWERED ON:09.08.2002

OPENING UP OF PORTS FOR IMPORT OF TEA FROM SRI LANKA .

IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government have not agreed to open-up the ports for import of tea under tariff rate quota for Sri Lanka;
- (b) if so, the main reasons for not accepting the proposal of Sri Lanka;
- (c) whether any clear lines has been adopted by India in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a) to (d): As per the India- Sri Lanka Free Trade Agreement, India has allowed the import of tea from Sri Lanka under Tariff Rate Quota for a fixed quantity of 15 million kgs per annum at a preferential tariff rate from the Ports of Cochin & Kolkata. India has now agreed to allow imports of tea under TRQ from two additional ports of Mumbai & Vishakhapatnam following decisions taken in the Senior Officials' meeting held between the two sides in Colombo on 4-5 July, 2002.